GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3225
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
NEPALI OCCUPATION OF INDIAN LAND
Deora Shri Milind Murli

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nepali citizens are in forcible occupation of 205 acres of land along the 'No Man's Land' near Kishanganj district in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the land under the illegal occupation of Nepali citizens is being used for farming purposes;

(d) if so, whether the Government of India has taken up the matter with the Government of Nepal to resolve the dispute; and

(e) if so, the results thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a)-(c) The India-Nepal boundary alignment in the district of Kishanganj is already identified by both the Governments and pillars have been jointly demarcated/constructed. Most of the boundary in this sector is riverine. The boundary had been identified on the basis of the fixed boundary principle in which the old river course, as depicted on the basis of maps jointly agreed by the two sides, was accepted as the boundary between India and Nepal. However, there has been change in the course of the river over the years resulting in some land being occupied by citizens of one country now belonging to the other, and vice versa, resulting in adverse possessions. There has been an attempt by a few Nepalese farmers to occupy and cultivate the fertile land between pillar no.(s) 106-109 two years ago i.e. in March 2005 on the Indo-Nepal border in Kishanganj district , which was aborted. Necessary orders have been issued to maintain the status quo.

(d)-(e) Such incidents have been taken up expeditiously with the Government of Nepal. These matters have been addressed by joint inspections, and repair and replacement of border pillars by the concerned authorities of both governments.